

THE PACIFIC Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH - EDITOR.

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Everybody wants a municipality who wouldn't have to pay for it.

The Democratic delegates endorsed 16 to 1 but the people, satisfied with prosperity, are likely to vote 16 to 1 against it.

The new submarine auto, which travels on the beds of streams may enable Mr. Bryan to get back from his second Salt River trip unobserved.

The Democratic platform makers made a few brief remarks about the Republican tariff but they thought best not to blow down its muzzle.

The man who said the country governed best was governed least was probably a base anti-municipal schemer without a drop of chivalric job-chasing blood in his veins.

Oom Paul's threat to "stagger humanity" if the British invaded the Transvaal was not an empty one in view of the enemy's staggering casualty list of nearly fifty thousand men.

It is with some difficulty that our esteemed confrere of the Diocesan Magazine repressed the thought that the Rev. Mr. Mackintosh would have to take cremation anyhow, in the long run.

The absence of a telegram of congratulation from the Hon. Grover Cleveland to the Hon. Wm. J. Bryan is still numbered among the invisible signs of harmony in the Democratic ranks.

That noble reformer, the Emperor of China, is alive but not kicking. While the Dowager is around he merely looks pleasant and plays with his top. If it weren't for the savagery of women, Kwang Hsu might be an Emperor after the Bow Wong heart; but the rustle of his imperial aunt's gown gets on his nerves.

Judge Stanley leaves the bench with an honorable record and with the regrets of all who have practiced in his court. It is one of the sorrows of annexation that so many able men of alien citizenship should no longer be at the service of Hawaii. In times past they have rendered public services of the most unmistakable value.

It is not often that both parties want the same man for Vice President but it occurred in the case of the late Admiral Philip. Had he lived and wished to enter politics, he could have made his choice of tickets. But the Admiral had not observed the struggles of Dewey out of water for nothing and though expecting a long life and a hearty one he declined political honor.

According to the Meteorological returns for June that month was the warmest June on record in Hawaii. The average mean temperature, and a very mean one it was, stood at 77.6. The highest point reached was 88 degrees F. Rainfall was a little more than half the normal and the artesian level fell a trifle. Doubtless the fall will be large this month when rice fields are being submerged.

Once in a while there is a red republican outburst in the House of Commons but not often. It is a quarter of a century since Charles Bradlaugh gave the British monarchy but five more years to live; yet the throne seems to rest on surer foundations than ever before. The Commoner who assailed it the other day when there was a proposal to adjourn to attend the Queen's garden party was hissed down and compelled to retract. He found, as Bradlaugh did, that the vast majority of Englishmen high and low venerate the Monarchy and are quite prepared to maintain domestic respect for it.

Editor Advertiser: You have referred lately several times to the "barracuda" as being a fish desirable in these waters. The fish which you refer to is named "barracouta" and is found in the fishmarket at this place, though not in any quantity, and it is asked for a very, very small one. They are also caught on Hawaii. Yours truly,

JNO. M. DAVIS.

There are many ways to spell "barracouta" and the Advertiser prefers the Californian to the West Indian form. It is the same fish whether called "barracouta," "barracuda," or "barracouta." The statement that the fish is found in Hawaiian waters is interesting but we have not been able to verify it by observation at the fish market.

William Waldorf Astor, cut by the Prince of Wales and now under the ban of British society, has gone to Germany. His offence was to insult a man of unquestioned position because he came to an Astor entertainment as the guest of persons who had, unlike himself, been invited there. Social calls of this accredited kind are common in London and Mr. Astor had no reason to complain of the usage. People "bring a friend" and expect courtesy for him. Astor's insult to the unbidden guest was inclusive of the latter's club and was followed by a further affront in Mr. Astor's newspaper. British society was incensed and the Prince acted. It is now thought that Mr. Astor's social career in London is closed. Americans will not sympathize with their former countryman as his arrogance while in his native land was insufferable. Though the founder of his "line" was a nineteenth century muskrat hunter and fur-trader, Astor bore himself like a prince of the blood and alienated everyone, including his father's family, with whom he came in contact. In London he has outdone the Dukes in display and the milder class of lunatics in eccentricity. His last previous break was to sue a newspaper for libel which had merely said that he was bringing a section of one of California's big trees to Cliveden to be used as an out-of-door dining table.

THE BRYAN PLATFORM ANALYZED.

The Democratic platform is as full of humbug as an addled egg is of smell.

It denounces the Porto Rico tariff as a violation of the organic law despite the fact that Porto Rico, by decision of the Federal Courts, is lawfully subject to tariff duties as a mere dependency and not an integral part of the Union.

It denounces the occupation of Cuba as a measure which "exploits the colonial theory to the disgrace of the American people." Yet the Democratic platform of 1880 said: "Resolved that the Democratic party is in favor of the acquisition of the island of Cuba," and the Democratic Ostend Manifesto declared for the seizure of that property.

It says: "We condemn and denounce the Philippine policy of the Administration," though the Democratic platform of 1884 taunted the Republican party about the paucity of its achievements in enlarging the boundaries of the United States. We quote: "Resolved, That the country has never had a well-defined and executed foreign policy save under Democratic administrations; and that, as the result of this policy we recall the acquisition of Louisiana, Florida, California and the adjacent Mexican territory, and contrast these grand acquisitions of Democratic statesmanship with the purchase of Alaska, the sole fruit of a Republican administration of nearly a quarter of a century." Is there anything more of "imperialism" in keeping the Philippines after paying \$20,000,000 for them than there was in keeping California and the adjacent Mexican territory after paying less than \$10,000,000? If Democracy boasts of the earlier achievement how can it condemn the later one?

It says: "The burning issue of imperialism growing out of the Spanish war, involves the very existence of the Republic and the destruction of our free institutions." Yet the Democratic platform of 1884 taunted the Republican party about the paucity of its achievements in enlarging the boundaries of the United States. We quote: "Resolved, That the country has never had a well-defined and executed foreign policy save under Democratic administrations; and that, as the result of this policy we recall the acquisition of Louisiana, Florida, California and the adjacent Mexican territory, and contrast these grand acquisitions of Democratic statesmanship with the purchase of Alaska, the sole fruit of a Republican administration of nearly a quarter of a century." Is there anything more of "imperialism" in keeping the Philippines after paying \$20,000,000 for them than there was in keeping California and the adjacent Mexican territory after paying less than \$10,000,000? If Democracy boasts of the earlier achievement how can it condemn the later one?

It "opposes militarism" as fatal to free institutions and says "the Republic is no place for a vast military service and conscription." Who said it was? About one soldier is now enlisted for every 1000 citizens, which is the smallest proportion known to the world; and there has been no talk of conscription. The United States had 2,000,000 men under arms during the Civil War and its liberties were preserved, not destroyed. How could 70,000 or 80,000 men tear them down?

It declares "that trusts are the legitimate product of Republican policies; that they are fostered by Republican laws and that they are protected by the Republican Administration in return for campaign subscriptions and Republican support." The only anti-trust law on the Federal statute books is Republican—the Sherman Act. The Republican attempt in Congress to pass a resolution calling for a Constitutional amendment against trusts was beaten by Democratic votes. The reference to "Republican policies" is a covert attack on the protective tariff—and yet the Democratic platform of Andrew Jackson in 1832 declared: "Resolved, That adequate protection to American industry is indispensable to the prosperity of the country; and that an abandonment of this policy will be attended with consequences ruinous to the best interests of the nation." Furthermore it is in order to ask how, if protection makes trusts, those combine flourish so well in free trade England?

It asserts in these terms that Jefferson was opposed to foreign understandings: "Jefferson said: 'Peace, commerce and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none.' We approve this wholesome doctrine and earnestly protest against the Republican departure which has involved us in so-called world politics, including the diplomacy of Europe and intrigue and land grabbing of Asia, and we especially condemn the ill-concealed Republican alliance with England, which must mean discrimination against other friendly nations, and which has already stifled the Nation's commerce while liberty is becoming strangled in Africa."

Jefferson may have declared against entangling alliances, though the phrase belongs to Washington. He may also have opposed alliances with England. Yet in a letter dated April 18, 1802, to Robert R. Livingston, the American Minister to France, Jefferson wrote: "The day that France takes possession of New Orleans fixes the sentence that is to restrain her forever within her low water mark. It seals the union of two nations who, in conjunction, can maintain exclusive possession of the ocean. From that moment we must marry ourselves to the British fleet and nation." This was no ill-concealed proposal for an alliance with England, but an open and uncoined one which would have carried America into world politics of the broadest kind—a proposal with which the Democracy of the fathers applauded to the letter.

Speaking of foreign or "world politics," here is an extract from the Democratic platform of 1852: "Resolved, That the country has never dealt firmly with foreign questions, which are inferior to no domestic questions whatever. The time has come for the people of the United States to declare themselves in favor of free seas and progressive trade throughout the world."

Consistency is a jewel and that is possibly the reason why the Democratic party can't afford it. There is no consistency with the party record in the utterances of the Kansas City platform and no sincerity; and the wayfarer man though a Populist should not err therein.

THE CARE OF LEPROSY.

In some respects these Islands have a good precautionary system against the spread of leprosy but in others they are wanting in the simplest and most primary safeguards.

Special Agent of the Postoffice Department Flint believes that the germs of leprosy may be spread through the correspondence which the lepers at Kalaupapa are permitted to carry on with their friends throughout the group. A person reeking with disease sits down, writes a letter and seals it with the moisture of the tongue, addresses it and entrusts it to the mail bag. Thousands of bacilli go with it and who can tell what deadly work they may do? This is a system which ought to be ended and Mr. Flint hopes to end it by providing the Molokai settlement with an amanuensis.

There is another abuse relating to the lepers of which the Board of Health has never made a sufficient excuse. When the last load of lepers went from Kailua the poor creatures were followed to the wharf by their friends and there they embraced and kissed until the keepers had to separate them. How many microbes passed from the victims of the scaly plague to people as yet clean, no man can tell. But the conditions of infection must have been perfect.

It is severe to give the lepers no chance for leave-taking but it is the only safe way. There should be no contact between the leper and the non-leper. The public health demands that the rule be made.

An exclusive leper steamer is needed. We believe that the plague-patients are no longer carried on passenger vessels, but they are not wanted even on freight packets. There should be a steamer for Kalaupapa traffic only.

The charge is made by those who want to abolish segregation that the system has not abated the white plague in the least; that there is as much leprosy in proportion to the whole number of inhabitants as there ever was. If this is true it simply means that the rules of segregation are too lax.

The matter of a Government Experiment Station for Hawaii was up at Washington seven months ago when a promise was given that a representative of the Agricultural Department would come to the Islands and pass upon it. That official is now en route. Correspondence about weather stations has been going on at intervals, but it is not likely that much will be done before the laying of a cable will permit the Mainland stations to avail themselves of Island reports.

Truth is ever stranger than fiction. If it had been set down in a novel that a widow had found part of her drowned husband's body in the stomach of a shark, the critics would have sneered at the rank improbability of the tale. Yet precisely that thing occurred in Honolulu yesterday. It was by such astonishing means that last Sunday's drowning mystery was cleared up.

Nothing is new under the sun. Now the heliograph takes its turn with ancient precedents, a passage in "The Art of War," London, 1560, revealing the device as a familiar one to military strategists: Here is "How to write,

and cause the same that is written to be read afar off without sending any message: A captain besieged in any town or fortress unable to communicate without by letter may, by night, so far as light can be seen, and by day, as far as a burnished glass can cast the sun on a hut or suchlike, may be described—he having arranged with his friends the order of signal—one or two lights being flashed, hidden or displayed again." What is this but the heliograph of the present day?

OF CURRENT INTEREST.

Turkish Carelessness as to Time.

A recent visitor to Constantinople reports one custom of the Turks which causes a vast deal of trouble and confusion. This is the Turkish system of reckoning time. A Turk holds that the day begins exactly at sunset; at that time he sets his clocks and watches at the hour of 12. As the sun has the same habits in presiding over Turkey that he exercises with regard to other localities, it may easily be seen that this system of reckoning time necessitates setting the clocks every day. It appears that a watch which would run for weeks without losing or gaining a minute would be of no special value to a Turk.

He Finished in "United States"

President Seth Low of Columbia University is a good Latin scholar, but he forgot his speech in that tongue the other day when conferring an honorary degree on a Harvard professor of Latin, and the New Yorkers are laughing good naturedly about it. Mr. Low was getting along swimmingly when suddenly he stopped and confessed that he could not remember his Latin. Then he added: "Latin may come from the head, but English from the heart, so I will confer this honorary degree from my heart." There was warm cheering and the president finished in English.

"Funny" Allen to Lecture.

A lecture manager has offered John Allen of Mississippi \$10,000 a year for a lecturing tour, which may account for Mr. Allen's statement that he will not again be a candidate for Congress. It is conceded in Mississippi that there is no better man in Allen's district who could beat him for Congress, but the United States Senate seems to be out of his reach. A friend of the humorous Congressman says of Allen: "He always draws well for everything except the Senate."

The Venerable Townsend Triplets.

The Townsend triplets, old ladies aged 77 years, will celebrate their birthday in Knox county, Mo., soon. They are all in excellent health. When young girls the "Townsend triplets" as they were everywhere known, worked in the cotton mill where General N. P. Banks spent his youthful days as a bobbin boy. The sisters entertain very pleasant memories of the lad who afterward rose to such distinction.

Speaker Myers' Historic Home.

Speaker James H. Myers, of the Massachusetts Legislature, still lives in the quarters he occupied while a student of Harvard. These are a suite of rooms in Wadsworth house, near the old gate. The building have lived many Harvard presidents, and Mr. Myers' study was once Washington's reception room.

Honors for Sir Julian.

Columbia and Harvard universities do their best to honor Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Ambassador, by conferring at this commencement season the degree of LL. D. upon him.

"A Word to the Wise is Sufficient."

But some stubborn people wait until "down sick" before trying to ward off illness or cure it. The wise recognize in the word "Hood's" assurance of health.

For all blood troubles, scrofula, pimples, as well as diseases of the kidneys, liver and bowels, Hood's Sarsaparilla is the effective and faultless cure.

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Contracts have been let for material, and the work of construction, equipping and installation placed in the hands of a competent electrical engineer to be fully completed by June 1st. Having an independent power plant we are prepared to furnish electric power for lighting, heating and other purposes, to our home builders at most reasonable rates.

As Promised. Our reservoirs are now completed and water mains laid so as to supply each lot. Permits for making water connections will be granted on application. An inspection of the attractive homes now building or the names of purchasers of lots, will convince anyone that PACIFIC HEIGHTS is the choicest and most select of all the residence sites of Honolulu.

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